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SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Tibet/China/USSR

DATE DISTR. 19 November 51

SUBJECT 1. Sino-Soviet Airfield in Tibet
25X1A 2. Chinese Communist Control of Tibetan
Communication

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. After the Chinese Communist occupation of Tibet, Soviet military groups sent Chinese Communist and Soviet units to Tibet to investigate the possibility of constructing an airfield between Lake Manasarowar and Lake Rakas (81- , 30-). The site chosen was near Nepal and 508 miles from New Delhi, and planes from the field would be able to fly to India through the mountain passes.¹
2. At this airfield the runway is to be 8,500 meters in length, and more than 70 planes will be kept at the field, which is to be commanded by Colonel Lo-erh-lo-fu (? Lorlov). There is to be a large ammunition dump in the southwest section near Lake Rakas, and 30,000 gallons of gasoline will be stored in the southeast section of the airfield, near Lake Manasarowar. The gasoline will be brought in from Sinkiang Province.²
3. Chinese Communists are at all key points along the communications lines, including the route from Lhasa to India, the Putanchemenghsiung (平丹哲孟雄) border area³, and Yatung (88-53, 27-26).

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1. Comment. This information is reminiscent of the articles on Soviet investigations of the Lake Manasarowar area which appeared in the New York Times in November 1950.
2. Comment. The form of the original report permits a reading in the future tense, as above, or in the present tense, implying that the field has been completed and is in operation. If such a reading were intended, the information is probably false.
3. Comment. The first two syllables of this name are the Chinese characters for Bhutan. The remainder of the name could not be identified.

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